## Comment Form

## STATE DEPARTMENT

Title: Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption; Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000; Accreditation of Agencies; Approval of Persons; Preservation of Convention Records; Extension of Comment Period Subject Category: Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000: Hague Convention-- Agency accreditation and person approval

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Phase: PROPOSED RULES

How To Comment:

Commenters may send hard copy submissions or comments in electronic format. Commenters sending only hard copies must send an original and two copies referencing docket number State/AR-01/96 or State/AR-01/98 to: U.S. Department of State, CA/OCS/PRI, Adoption Regulations Docket Room, SA-29, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520. Hard copy comments may also be sent by overnight courier services to: U.S. Department of State, CA/OCS/PRI, Adoption Regulations Docket Room, 2201 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20520. Donot personally hand deliver comments to the Department of State. Comments referencing the docket number State/AR-01/96 or State/AR-01/98 may be submitted electronically to adoptionregs@state.gov. Two hard copies of the comments submitted electronically must be mailed under separate cover as well. Electronic comments must be made in the text of the message or submitted as a Word file avoiding the use of any form of encryption or use of special characters. If you submit comments by hard copy rather than electronically, include a disk with the submission if possible. Hard copy submissions without an accompanying disk file, however, will be accepted.

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Regulations.gov #: EREG - 11

Date Submitted: Dec 15, 2003

Title First Name Last Name

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US

## Comment

I have alot of hesitation about the implementation of the Hague Treaty for International Adoption. I am not sure people realize how much the cost will increase for families and for small agencies. Many people who do hard work to help find families for children in need around the world will be put out of business due to rising overhead costs that will not allow them to compete with larger agencies. A monopoly on international adoption could easily form, and the services could become much more impersonal. We need to be sure this is the smartest decision, and make sure that we are keeping the children in the forefront of our minds when we make these choices. A small agency, like the one where I am doing my internship, does not have the funds to provide what the Hague is asking for, and the work that we do to help unite families with children in need could be destroyed. Please listen to the needs of small agencies and think of the dramatic impact that this decision could have on the children around the world!!